

ABSTRACT

A method for processing a digital color image includes the steps of:
providing a subject matter detector for distinguishing between target and
background subject matters; applying the subject matter detector to the image to
5 produce a belief map indicating the degree of belief that pixels in the image
belong to target subject matter; providing an image enhancement operation that is
responsive to a control signal for controlling the degree of image enhancement;
and applying image enhancement to the digital image by varying the control signal
according to the belief map to produce an enhanced image.

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201601-121001